

## Investigative and Enforcement Services

USDA, APHIS, IES  
4700 River Road, Unit 85  
Riverdale, MD 20737  
Phone: (301) 734-8684  
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## Settlement Agreement

### RESPONDENT:

Matthew and Christina Joseph  
P.O. Box 274  
Irondale, OH 43932-0274

CASE NUMBER OH09090-AC

DUE ON OR BEFORE June 17, 2011  
CONTACT Tyrese Coleman  
PHONE 301-734-0888

| DATE        | CITATION              | DESCRIPTION  |
|-------------|-----------------------|--|
| 25-May-2009 | 9 C.R.F § 2.131(c)(1) | <p><b>Handling of animals.</b> (c)(1) During public exhibition, any animal must be handled so there is minimal risk of harm to the animal and to the public, with sufficient distance and/or barriers between the animal and the general viewing public so as to assure the safety of animals and the public.</p> <p>Respondent failed to handle mountain lions so that there was minimal risk of harm to the animals and the public with sufficient distance and/or barriers between the animals and the general viewing public. A mountain lion bit a young girl during a public exhibition.</p> |

**PENALTY** \$1,714

### TERMS

Titles 7, 16, 19, and 21 of the United States Code authorize the Secretary of Agriculture, after providing notice and opportunity for a hearing, to impose civil penalties and other sanctions to resolve violations.

Prior to the issuance of a formal complaint seeking sanctions under the Act, The Department may enter into a stipulation to resolve the above-described violations. Your payment constitutes a waiver of your right to a hearing, a finding that the violations of law have occurred, and settlement of such violations.

If you do not pay the specified penalty within the designated time or wish to exercise your right to a hearing, this matter will be forwarded to the Office of the General Counsel for litigation. The penalty offered in this stipulation is not relevant to the sanctions the Department may seek, or that will be assessed, upon issuance of a formal complaint.

Signature of Respondent: 

Date: 5.10.11

### PAYMENT RECORD - FOR IES USE ONLY

| Payment Type | Date | Amount | Signature of IES Representative |
|--------------|------|--------|---------------------------------|
|              |      |        |                                 |
|              |      |        |                                 |
|              |      |        |                                 |
|              |      |        |                                 |

RECEIVED

341126 NT04 - Settlement Agreement  
Revised 11/15/05

USDA APHIS